

Activists (ASHA), improved hospital care measured through Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS), decentralization of programme to district level to improve intra and inter-sectoral convergence and effective utilization of resources. The NRHM provides for a thrust on population stabilization as well.

Special efforts to deal with population growth, in line with the National Population Policy is being attended under NRHM in the following manner:

- * Improvement in functioning of Public health facilities at all levels to meet unmet demands for Family Planning.
- * Quality family welfare services under the RCH-II component of NRHM.
- * Intensive campaign for creating awareness, especially with the help of ASHAs.
- * Provision for additional manpower and service guarantees at all levels of health facilities.
- * Training of Medical Officers/ANMs/Nurses in still upgradation for providing salary planning services.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The notice of Writ Petition No. 23/2004 filed by the Azadi Bachao Andolan and another versus UOI and other in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has been received. The Writ Petition is regarding Population growth and implementation of National Population Policy, 2000.

ASSOCHAM findings on spurious drugs

514. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the findings of the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ASSOCHAM) highlighting that the volume of counterfeit and contraband drugs and pharmaceutical products in India have witnessed substantial growth this year;

(b) whether Government have conducted any study/survey/investigation into the circulation of spurious and counterfeit drugs in the market since the issue was agitated in Parliament in its preceding sessions;

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RAJYA SABHA

(c) if so, the details and findings of the exercise; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A pilot study was conducted by CDSCO (West Zone), Mumbai by drawing the survey samples to assess the genuinity and quality of drugs during 2002 to 2006. In this study 3246 samples of fast moving brand like Combiflame tab, Althrocin, Alrax, Becosules caps, Coldact, Corex Cough syrups, Cifran, Crocin, Norfox, Nise, Novamox, Septran, Vovem tab etc. were drawn from different places in West Zone for monitoring of quality of Drugs Moving in West Zone. Out of which 2 number of samples were found not to be standard quality and 5 number of samples were found to be spurious/counterfeit. Prosecutions have been launched in the case of spurious/counterfeit drugs by the State Food & Drug Authority.

Spurious medicines control measures

515. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the total volume of counterfeit and contraband products have increased by 50 per cent this year at Rs. 30,000/- crores, accruing losses worth Rs. 15,000/- crores, to Government by way of tax evasion according to ASSOCHAM;

(b) whether it is also a fact that while the total spurious market in the country is at Rs. 20,000/- crores, share of fake drugs market was reportedly at about Rs. 3,000/- crores; and

(c) if so, what corrective measures Government proposes to take or have taken on the menace of fake medicines along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) ASSOCHAM has published certain facts and figures indicating the quantum of counterfeit, spurious and contraband goods including pharmaceuticals. However, authenticity of the same cannot be confirmed.